

Joshua Niznik, PharmD, PhD
University of North Carolina School of Medicine
Division of Geriatric Medicine
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EDUCATION:

Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences August 2019
Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy Research Track
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Certificate in Clinical and Translational Science August 2019
Institute for Clinical Research Education
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Doctor of Pharmacy April 2015
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences April 2013
University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES / EMPLOYMENT:

Assistant Professor August 2019-present
University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Division of Geriatric Medicine
University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy, Division of Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy

Research Health Science Specialist October 2016-present
VA Pittsburgh Health System – Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion

Staff Pharmacist July 2015-July 2019
UPMC Magee-Women’s Hospital

T-32 Postdoctoral Scholar July 2017-June 2019
University of Pittsburgh, Dept. of Medicine, Geriatric Division

T-32 Summer Trainee July 2016-Sept 2016
University of Pittsburgh, Dept. of Medicine, Geriatric Division

Pharmacy Intern May 2012-July 2015
UPMC Magee-Women’s Hospital

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS:

Registered Pharmacist (Pennsylvania) July 2015
License No: RP449616

Authorization to Administer Injectables July 2015
License No: RPI009726

Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers (CPR and AED) February 2014

HONORS:

<i>Junior Investigator Intensive Appointee</i> United States Deprescribing Research Network (USDeN)	2020
<i>Appointee</i> Journal of the American Geriatrics Society Junior Reviewer Program	2019
<i>Best Postdoctoral Clinical Research Award</i> UPMC Aging Institute	2018
<i>Randy and Renee Juhl Pharmacy Graduate Scholar Award</i> University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy	2018
<i>American Geriatrics Society Scientist-in Training Research Award</i> The American Geriatrics Society	2018
<i>American Geriatrics Society Best Paper Award, Health Services & Policy Research</i> The American Geriatrics Society	2018
<i>Health Services/Clinical Epidemiology Post-Doctoral Fellow Research Award</i> University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine	2018
<i>Top Reviewer for Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy</i>	2017
<i>AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting Student Poster Competition (Recognized as top 10 abstract)</i>	2017
<i>Randy and Renee Juhl Pharmacy Graduate Scholar Award</i> University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy	2017
<i>American Pharmacists Association Senior Recognition Award</i>	2015
<i>Carl and Virginia Stoehr Memorial Scholarship</i> University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy	2014
<i>Reuben and Ethel Helfant Scholarship</i> University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy	2013

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PRODUCTS OF SCHOLARSHIP:

Refereed Papers/Articles:

Original Research:

1. Vu M, Sileanu FE, Aspinall SL, **Niznik JD**, Springer SP, Mor MK, Zhao X, Ersek M, Hanlon JT, Gellad WF, Schleiden LJ, Thorpe JM, Thorpe CT. Antihypertensive Deprescribing in Older Adult Veterans at End-of-Life Admitted to Veteran Affairs Nursing Homes. *J Am Med Dir Assoc.* 2020 Jul 25:S1525-8610(20)30486-2.
2. Thorpe CT, Sileanu FE, Mor MK, Zhao X, Aspinall SL, Ersek M, Springer S, **Niznik JD**, Vu M, Schleiden LJ, Gellad WF, Hunnicutt J, Thorpe JM, Hanlon JT. Discontinuation of Statins in Veterans Admitted to Nursing Homes Near the End of Life. *J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2020 Aug 12.

3. **Niznik JD**, Hunnicutt J, Zhao X, Mor MK, Sileanu F, Aspinall SL, Springer SP, Ersek MJ, Gellad WF, Schleiden LJ, Hanlon JT, Thorpe JM, Thorpe CT. Deintensification of Diabetes Medications among Veterans at the End-of-Life in VA Nursing Homes. *J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2020 Apr;68(4):736-745.
4. **Niznik JD**, Zhao XZ, He W, Aspinall SL, Hanlon JT, Nace DA, Thorpe JT, Thorpe, CT. Impact of Deprescribing AChEIs on Aggressive Behaviors and Antipsychotic Prescribing. *Alzheimers Dement.* 2020 Apr;16(4):630-640.
5. Springer SP, Mor MK, Sileanu F, Zhao X, Aspinall SL, Ersek M, **Niznik JD**, Hanlon JT, Hunnicutt J, Gellad WF, Thorpe JM, Thorpe CT. Incidence and Predictors of Aspirin Discontinuation in Older Veteran Nursing Home Residents at End-of-Life. *J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2020 Apr;68(4):725-735.
6. **Niznik JD**, Zhao XZ, He W, Aspinall SL, Hanlon JT, Hanson LC, Nace DA, Thorpe JT, Thorpe, CT. Risk for Health Events After Deprescribing AChEIs in Nursing Home Residents with Severe Dementia. *J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2020 Apr;68(4):699-707.
7. **Niznik JD**, Zhao XZ, He W, Aspinall SL, Hanlon JT, Nace DA, Thorpe JT, Thorpe, CT. Factors associated with deprescribing AChEIs in older nursing home residents with severe dementia. *J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2019 Sep;67(9):1871-1879.
8. Schleiden LJ, Thorpe CT, Cashy JP, Gellad WF, Good CB, Hanlon JT, Mor MK, **Niznik JD**, Pleis JR, Van Houtven CH, Thorpe JM. Characteristics of dual drug benefit use among veterans with dementia enrolled in the Veterans Health Administration and Medicare Part D. *Res Social Adm Pharm.* 2018 Sep 8. pii: S1551-7411(18)30387-5.
9. Thorpe CT, Gellad WF, Mor MK, Cashy JP, Pleis JR, Van Houtven CH, Schleiden LJ, Hanlon JT, **Niznik JD**, Carico RL, Good CB, Thorpe JM. Effect of dual use of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Medicare Part D drug benefits on antihypertensive refill adherence in a national cohort of Veterans with dementia. *Health Services Research.* 2018 Dec;53 Suppl 3:5375-5401.
10. **Niznik JD**, Zhang S, Mor M, Zhao X, Ersek M, Aspinall S, Thorpe J, Gellad W, Hanlon J, Schleiden L, Springer S, Thorpe C. Adaptation and Initial Validation of the Minimum Data Set (MDS) Mortality Risk Index to MDS version 3.0. *J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2018 Dec;66(12):2353-2359.
11. **Niznik J**, Zhao X, Jiang T, Hanlon J, Aspinall S, Thorpe J, Thorpe C. Anticholinergic Prescribing in Medicare Part D Beneficiaries Residing in Nursing Homes: Results from a retrospective cross-sectional analysis of Medicare data. *Drugs & Aging* 2017 Dec;34(12):925-939.

Other Peer-reviewed Articles:

1. **Niznik J**, He H, Kane-Gill SL. Impact of clinical pharmacist services delivered via telemedicine in the outpatient or ambulatory care setting: A systematic review. *Res Social Adm Pharm.* 2018 Aug;14(8):707-717.
2. Aspinall S, Hanlon JT, **Niznik J**, Springer S, Thorpe CT. Deprescribing in Older Nursing Home Patients: Focus on Innovative Composite Measures for Dosage Deintensification. *Innovation in Aging* 2017. Dec 20;1(2):igx031.
3. Kane-Gill SL, **Niznik J**, Kellum JA, Culley CM, Boyce RD, Marcum Z, He H, Perera S, Handler SM. Use of telemedicine to enhance pharmacist services in the nursing home. *Consult Pharm* 2017 Feb 1;32(2):93-98.

In Press/Submitted:

1. **Niznik JD**, Aspinall SL, Zhao X, Springer SP, Lund JL, Thorpe CT. Measuring Real World Patterns of Deprescribing in Older Adults Using Administrative Healthcare Data. (submitted July 2020).
2. **Niznik JD**, Li X, Gilliam MA, Hanson LC, Aspinall SL, Colon-Emeric C, Thorpe CT. Pharmacologic Treatment for Fracture Prevention in Nursing Home Residents with Dementia. (submitted August 2020).

Refereed oral presentations and/or abstracts:

1. Roberts E, Henage CB, Armistead LT, Hughes TD, **Niznik JD**, Schlusser C, Busby-Whitehead J, Ferreri S. Qualitative Exploration of Barriers and Facilitators for Deprescribing Opioids and Benzodiazepines in Older Adults to Reduce Falls. Accepted for poster presentation at the 2020 Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting. Virtual meeting. November 2020.
2. **Niznik JD**. Deprescribing in older adults: Is evidence for continued medication use generalizable beyond age 75? Invited presentation for the Health Sciences Presidential Symposium at the 2020 Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting. Virtual meeting. November 2020.
3. **Niznik JD**, Zhao X, He M, Aspinall SL, Hanlon JT, Nace D, Thorpe JT, Thorpe CT. Impact Of Deprescribing Cholinesterase Inhibitors On Medication Use In Nursing Home Residents With Severe Dementia. Accepted for oral presentation at the 2020 American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting. [meeting cancelled due to COVID-19].
4. **Niznik JD**, Li X, Gilliam MA, Hanson LC, Thorpe CT. Osteoporosis Treatment Patterns for Nursing Home Residents with Dementia. Accepted for poster presentation at the 2020 American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting. [meeting cancelled due to COVID-19].
5. **Niznik JD**, Zhao X, He M, Aspinall SL, Hanlon JT, Nace D, Thorpe JT, Thorpe CT. Outcomes of Discontinuing Cholinesterase Inhibitors in Nursing Home Residents with Severe Dementia. Oral presentation at the 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting – The Gerontological Society of America, Austin, TX, November 2019.
6. **Niznik JD**, Mor MK, Zhang S, Sileanu F, Zhao X, Aspinall SL, Hanlon JT, Hunnicutt J, Springer SP, Gellad WF, Schleiden LJ, Thorpe JM, Thorpe CT. Statin Discontinuation in VA Community Living Center Residents with Limited Life Expectancy. Oral presentation at the 2017 Department of Veterans Affairs HSR&D/QUERI National Conference, Washington, D.C., October 2019.
7. **Niznik JD**, Zhao X, He M, Aspinall SL, Hanlon JT, Nace D, Thorpe JT, Thorpe CT. Factors Associated with Deprescribing AChEIs in Older Nursing Home residents with Severe Dementia. Poster presentation at the 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society, Portland OR, May 2019.
8. Springer SP, Mor MK, Zhang S, Sileanu FE, Zhao X, Aspinall SL, Ersek MJ, Hanlon JT, Hunnicutt J, **Niznik JD**, Gellad WF, Schleiden LJ, Thorpe JM, Thorpe CT. Prevalence and Factors Predicting Aspirin Use for Secondary Prevention in Veteran Affairs (VA) Nursing Home Residents with Limited Life Expectancy on Admission. Poster presentation at the 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society, Portland OR, May 2019.
9. Thorpe CT, Mor MK, Zhang S, Sileanu FE, Zhao X, Aspinall SL, Ersek MJ, Hanlon JT, Hunnicutt J, **Niznik JD**, Springer S, Gellad WF, Schleiden LJ, Thorpe JM. Statin discontinuation in Veterans Affairs (VA) nursing home residents with limited life expectancy. Poster presentation at the 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society, Portland OR, May 2-4, 2019.
10. **Niznik JD**, Zhao XZ, He W, Aspinall SL, Hanlon JT, Nace DA, Thorpe JT, Thorpe, CT. Factors associated with deprescribing AChEIs in older nursing home residents with severe dementia. Poster presentation at the UPMC/Pitt Aging Research Day, Pittsburgh, PA, December 2018. Award: Post-doctoral Clinical Research Award.
11. **Niznik J**, Zhang S, Mor M, Zhao X, Ersek M, Aspinall S, Thorpe J, Gellad W, Hanlon J, Schleiden L, Springer S, Thorpe C. Validating the MDS Mortality Risk Index in Older Adult Veterans using MDS v3.0. Poster presentation at the AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, Seattle, WA, June 2018.
12. **Niznik J**, Zhang S, Mor M, Zhao X, Ersek M, Aspinall S, Thorpe J, Gellad W, Hanlon J, Schleiden L, Springer S, Thorpe C. Validating the MDS Mortality Risk Index in Older Adult Veterans using MDS v3.0. Podium presentation

at the American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, May 2018. Award: American Geriatrics Society Best Paper Award, Health Services & Policy Research.

13. Thorpe CT, Gellad WF, Mor MK, Cashy JP, Pleis JR, Van Houtven CH, Schleiden LJ, Hanlon JT, **Niznik JD**, Carico Jr. RL, Good CB, Thorpe JM. Effect of dual use of Veterans Affairs and Medicare Part D drug benefits on chronic disease refill adherence in Veterans with dementia. Oral presentation at the 2017 Department of Veterans Affairs HSR&D/QUERI National Conference, Crystal City, VA, July 2017.
14. **Niznik J**, Zhao X, Jiang T, Hanlon J, Aspinall S, Thorpe J, Thorpe CT. Factors Predicting the Use of Anticholinergic Medications in Nursing Home Patients. Poster presentation at University of Pittsburgh Annual Aging Institute Research Day, Pittsburgh, PA, May 2017 and AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, New Orleans, LA, June 2017. Honoree: Top 10 Abstract in AcademyHealth Student Poster Competition.
15. Squires PJ, Thorpe J, Gellad W, Hanlon J, **Niznik J**, Pleis J, Mor MK, Van Houtven C, Schleiden L, Thorpe C. Cholinesterase inhibitors and antimuscarinic anticholinergics: A prescribing cascade in older Veterans with dementia. Poster presentation at the AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, New Orleans, LA, June 2017.
16. **Niznik J**, Thorpe CT, Meyer S. Health Policy and its Role in Pharmacy Education and Practice: A Review. Poster Presentation at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Denver CO, October 2016.
17. **Niznik J**, Thorpe CT. Using Medicare Administrative Data to Study Medication-Related Geriatric Syndromes in Nursing Home Patients. Poster Presentation at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy Research Retreat, Pittsburgh, PA, July 2016.
18. Nowak J, Cheung E, Robb K, Schmidt M, Mitterer L, O'Neill C, Hoffman R, Grant K, **Niznik J**, Skezas N, Tokarski R. Implementation of a Pharmacy Discharge Medication Education Program. Poster Presentation at the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists Midyear Meeting, Anaheim, CA, December 2014.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES:

Small Group Teaching:

University of North Carolina:

PHCY 504 – Evidence-based Practice

Fall 2020

Professional Course – Eshleman School of Pharmacy

Facilitator of journal club discussion with two small groups of students.

PHCY 718 – The Patient Care Experience II

Spring 2020

Professional Course – Eshleman School of Pharmacy

Facilitator of small group of 13 students to discuss perspectives and interfaces with patients and health care providers.

Lectures:

University of Pittsburgh:

PHARM 3071 - Foundations of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Spring 2019

Graduate Course - Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Lecture(s): Medication Data Sources and Methods for Analysis; Causal Inference and Bias in Outcomes Research

Approximately 25 students per section.

EPIDEM 2900 - Advanced Epidemiology of Aging

Spring 2019

Graduate Course - Department of Epidemiology

Lecture(s): Suboptimal Prescription Patterns in Older Adults

Approximately 15 students per section.

EPIDEM 2981 - Epidemiology of Aging – Methods

Fall 2018

Graduate Course - Department of Epidemiology
Lecture(s): Medication Use in Aging Populations: Data Sources and Methods for Analysis
Approximately 15 students per section.

PHARM 2003 – Pharmacoepidemiology Spring 2018
Graduate Course - Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Lecture(s): Special Considerations for Analyses in Pharmacoepidemiology
Approximately 25 students per section.

PHARM 5211 - Drug Literature Analysis and Evaluation Spring 2016-2018
Professional Course - Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics
Lecture(s): Communicating Evidence-based Recommendations; Evidence-Based Medicine Anticoagulation Case
Approximately 110 students per section

Grand Rounds/Seminars:

Moses Cone Hospital:
Internal Medicine Grand Rounds Fall 2019
Presentation: Anticholinergic Use in Elderly Populations: Current Research and Clinical Implications

University of North Carolina:
Department of Medicine - Geriatric Division Weekly Conference Spring 2020
Presentation: Polypharmacy and Frailty: A Discussion of Implications for Practice and Research

Department of Medicine - Geriatric Division Fellows Didactic Lecture Fall 2019, 2020
Utility and Appropriateness of Antidementia Medications

Department of Medicine - Geriatric Division Weekly Conference Fall 2019
Presentation: Anticholinergic Use in Elderly Populations: Current Research and Clinical Implications

Department of Epidemiology – Pharmacoepidemiology Seminar Fall 2019
Observational Data Sources and Study Designs to Evaluate Deprescribing in Older Adults

University of Pittsburgh:
Center for Research on Health Care – Health Services Research Seminar Series Fall 2020
Presentation: Opportunities and Challenges of Studying Deprescribing in Older Adults
Using Administrative Healthcare Data

Department of Medicine - Geriatric Division Weekly Conference Fall 2018
Presentation: Anticholinergic Use in Elderly Populations: Current Research and Clinical Implications

Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center Research Seminar Fall 2017
Presentation: Anticholinergic Use in Elderly Populations: Methods and Implications for Research

Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center Research Seminar Spring 2019
Presentation: Quality and Safety of Prescribing in Older Nursing Home Residents

Clinical Teaching:

University of Pittsburgh:
PHARM 5110 – Pharmacist Patient Care I Fall 2018
Standardized Patient Exam Evaluator

Research Mentorship:

University of North Carolina:

PharmD Students - Research and Scholarship in Pharmacy

- Kimberly Gromek, 2020-present
 - Project Title: Patterns of Co-prescribing Potentially Unnecessary Medications in Nursing Home Residents with Severe Dementia

GRANTS AND OTHER SUPPORT:

Current:

Deprescribing Bisphosphonates in Older Nursing Home Residents with Dementia 08/01/2020-07/31/2021

U.S. Deprescribing Network Pilot (NIA 1R24AG064025)

(PI: Niznik, JD)

Role: Principal Investigator

This study will develop operational definitions for examining deprescribing of bisphosphonates using Medicare Part D prescription drug event data. In subsequent analyses, the study will examine the incidence and predictors of deprescribing bisphosphonates in a sample of Medicare nursing home residents with dementia.

Total Direct Costs: \$37,691

UNC-CH Summer Research Training in Aging for Medical Students 08/01/2020-05/30/2021

NIA 2-T35-AG038047-11

(PI: Busby-Whitehead)

Role: Program Advisor

The short-term goal of the program is to provide medical students with a meaningful aging research experience early in their medical school career. The long-term goal of the UNC START Program will be to increase the number of physician-scientists engaged in biomedical, clinical, or health services research in those areas necessary to continue the mission of the NIA.

Implementation of a De-prescribing Medication Program to Evaluate Falls in Older Adults 09/30/2018-09/29/2022

CDC U01CE002955

(PI: Ferreri, S; Busby-Whitehead J)

Role: Co-Investigator

This study will engage patients within the UNC Health Care System who are 65 years of age or older and taking either an opioid or benzodiazepine, with the objective of implementing a pharmacist-initiated de-prescribing medication protocol to protect older adults at risk of falls.

Carolina Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program 08/01/2019-06/30/2024

HRSA-Bureau of Health Workforce 2-U1QHP28734

(PI: Busby-Whitehead, J)

Role: Co-investigator

The CGWEP will improve health outcomes for older adults by: (1) establishing partnerships among academia, primary care sites, and community-based organizations, (2) training all healthcare professions to address older adults' primary care needs, (3) transforming clinical training environments into integrated age-friendly health systems, (4) disseminating community-based programs that provide patients, families, caregivers, and direct care workers geriatrics knowledge and skills, and (5) educating families, caregivers, and direct care workers on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD).

De-intensifying Unnecessary Medications in VA CLC Residents Nearing End of Life 05/01/2016-06/30/2021

VA HSR&D IIR 14-306

(PI: Thorpe, CT)

Role: Co-Investigator

This study will advance understanding of current variation across VA nursing homes in implementation of recommendations issued by geriatric groups to avoid intense treatment for lipid, blood pressure, and glycemic control in residents with limited life expectancy and/or advanced dementia, and effects on Veteran outcomes.

Completed:

De-prescribing of Anti-dementia Medications

2/1/2018-7/1/2019

The Pittsburgh Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center

(Co-PIs: Joshua Niznik & Sherrie Aspinall)

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

This study links Medicare claims, Part D prescription drug data, and Minimum Data Set (MDS) resident assessments to generate evidence regarding risk and benefits associated with de-prescribing acetylcholinesterase inhibitors in nursing home residents with advanced dementia.

Total Direct Costs: \$24,897

De-prescribing of Anti-dementia Medications

11/1/2017-10/31/2019

The Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donaghue Medical Research Foundation

(Co-PIs: Carolyn Thorpe & Sherrie Aspinall)

Role: Co-Investigator

This study links Medicare claims, Part D prescription drug data, and Minimum Data Set (MDS) resident assessments to generate evidence regarding risk and benefits associated with de-prescribing acetylcholinesterase inhibitors in nursing home residents with advanced dementia.

Total Direct Costs: \$113,538

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

To Discipline:

National Committees:

Research Methods Sub-Committee

2019-present

The American Geriatrics Society

National Post-Graduate Advisory Committee

2018-2019

American Pharmacists Association Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science

Other Committees:

Graduate Program Curriculum Committee

2017-2019

University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy

Chapter President and President-Elect

2012-2014

American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists, University of Pittsburgh Chapter

Editorial/Peer-Review Activities:

Abstract Reviewer

American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting, American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Annual Meeting, Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting

Reviewer

Age & Aging, Alzheimer's and Dementia, American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry, Annals of Pharmacotherapy, BMC Cardiovascular Disorders, BMJ Quality and Safety, Drugs & Aging, European Journal of Hospital Pharmacy, Journal of the American Medical Association, Journal of the American Medical Directors Association, Journal of General Internal Medicine, Research in Social & Administrative Pharmacy, Therapeutic Advances in Drug Safety

RESEARCH STATEMENT:

I am a geriatric health services researcher with clinical training in the pharmaceutical sciences. My research interests are focused on evaluating the quality of medications in older adults to improve the safety of medication use in this population. During my training I have developed expertise in pharmacoepidemiology, with strong skills in observational and quasi-experimental study designs, large database analyses, statistical approaches to minimize confounding, responsible conduct of research, scientific writing, and grantsmanship. Most recently, my work has focused on evaluating the impact of deprescribing or discontinuing chronic medications that may no longer have value in nursing home residents with severe dementia as a means for evaluating the quality of prescribing in this population. I see my passion for ensuring the quality and safety of medication use in older adults continuing to serve as the foundation for my future research, as I look to build a federally-funded research program in geriatric pharmaceutical health services research.

TEACHING STATEMENT:

My goals as an instructor and mentor are to prepare the next generation of health professionals and pharmaceutical health services researchers with a solid foundation in study designs, research methods, and translation of findings to real-world decision-making in clinical practice. Research is an essential component of healthcare practice, particularly in an age where quality, cost-effectiveness, and efficiency are highly valued as endpoints of care. Evidence-based medicine, fueled by well-designed research, drives clinical-decision making, providing clinicians with guidance on how to best optimize care. Successful teaching is founded upon the creation of a clear path from knowledge to application. I believe that it is the paramount duty of an instructor to be cognizant of the learner's perspective of this path, though it can be increasingly difficult to identify with as we advance in our careers.

SERVICE AND ENGAGEMENT STATEMENT:

My current and previous involvement on university-level and national-level committees has taught me the importance of being an engaged and active member of the community of my work place and my profession. Through service and engagement, I have gained valuable skills in leadership, collaboration, and negotiation that have been instrumental in my transition from graduate trainee to investigator. I see service as an opportunity to contribute my expertise towards advancing the innovation, integrity, and excellence of research at the institution in which I practice. As a geriatric health services researcher, I envision my continued service to have an interdisciplinary approach, encompassing geriatric medicine and pharmaceutical health services research on the university-level. I also aspire for additional involvement on national committees for geriatrics research as a means to network with experts, identify potential collaborators, and establish my reputation as an investigator in the field of geriatrics.